

City of Corunna  
Regular Council Meeting  
Monday, May 2, 2005

Present: Corey, Johnson, Mehigh, Runyan, Sanderson, Spring, Wagner.

Absent: None.

Guests: Joe Sawyer, City Manager; Judy Horton; Shirley Sanderson; Millie Taute; Bob & Kietha Ockerman; Mike Sarrazin; Kim Fitzpatrick; David & Mary Dumond; Jerry Sawyer; Jeff Sawyer; Bill Runyan, Jr.; Geoff Washburn; Jennifer Eashoo; John Lawson; Merilee Lawson, Assessor/Planner; Arnie Jessen; Kim Williams; Mike O'Leary; Angelo Panos; Sgt. Kevin Clark, Police Department; Chief Mark Hetfield, Police Department; Jackie Leone, The Argus Press; Chief Scott Johnson, Fire Department; Joe DeCaire; Jack & Tina Johnson; Diane Johnson; Helen Granger, The Independent; Tami Sawyer; Bob Morehouse; Mike Dvorak; Dave & Nina Hall; Craig Weaver; Bill Striggow; Tim Lawson; Kami Lawson; Bill Lulham; Kristin Howard; and other concerned citizens.

The meeting was called to order in the City Council Chambers by Mayor Corey at 7:00 p.m.

MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS REGULAR MEETING: Johnson moved, Wagner seconded to accept the previous regular meeting minutes dated April 18, 2005 as presented.

Roll call vote:

Yes: Wagner, Johnson, Sanderson, Runyan, Spring, Mehigh.

No: None.

Motion CARRIED

AGENDA APPROVAL: Johnson moved, Wagner seconded to approve the agenda with the addition of Item No. 4) Set Public Hearing for May 16, 2005 at 7:30 p.m. to adopt Truth in Taxation 2005-2006 Budget and 2005-2006 Fee Schedule and Item No. 5) Discussion on Part-Time Chief of Police Position.

Roll call vote:

Yes: Spring, Runyan, Mehigh, Wagner, Johnson, Sanderson.

No: None.

Motion CARRIED

APPROVAL OF VENDOR DISBURSEMENTS: Wagner moved, Johnson seconded to approve the vendor disbursements as presented with the exception of item number 2372 since the item was not voted on by the fire board.

Roll call vote:

Yes: Runyan, Wagner, Spring, Sanderson, Mehigh, Johnson.

No: None.

Motion CARRIED

PROCLAMATION PRESENTATION: Mayor Corey read and presented Geoff Washburn with a mayoral proclamation recognizing the American Cancer Society and the Shiawassee County Relay for Life for planning to "Paint the Town Purple".

CITY MANAGER'S EVALUATION: Mayor Corey stated the city had gotten away from doing evaluations and the council wanted to go back to doing evaluations not only of the city manager but all of the department heads and employees. He constructed an evaluation form at the request of the council and there were 52 questions and the scoring went from one to ten for each question. A score of five points on each questions for a total of 260 points would be considered a score for an average city manager, a poor manager could receive one point per question for a total of 52 points and 10 points per question or 520 points would be an exceptional city manager. He also stated Mr. Sawyer earned 2,864 points out of 3,100 possible points and after averaging the council scores together, Mr. Sawyer earned a performance rating of 92.5 percent. Mayor Corey advised from his standpoint this is an exceptional rating. Councilperson Spring stated he was rather new to the budget process so to look at 195 pages of data was overwhelming but Mr. Sawyer made it exceptionally easy for him and has made himself available to him at anytime. Councilperson Johnson stated she was on her fourth year on the council and she was glad she was able to serve. The budget process has been interesting but Mr. Sawyer has made it easy to do. She further stated not everyone is perfect but he has done an outstanding job as the city manager. She also stated it has been a pleasure to serve with Mr. Sawyer and has not always seen eye to eye with him but they were able to talk things through and she thanked him for that. Councilperson Mehig echoed Councilperson Johnson's sentiments. Mr. Sawyer has taken a budget, which he could not understand when he first came on the council, and broke it down so the average person can understand it. Councilperson Mehig stated he has not seen anybody with a skill of that magnitude and it is just phenomenal. He further stated he has always felt that ratings were of critical importance and if there is an area that Mr. Sawyer needs to improve on, it is doing an annual rating on his department heads and everyone else in the city. Overall, he thought Mr. Sawyer was an outstanding leader for the community. Councilperson Sanderson stated he agreed with Councilperson Mehig but he had a couple of points that he would like to discuss with Mr. Sawyer in private. Councilperson Sanderson further stated the council should make Mr. Sawyer work eight hours a day instead of the 16 hours or more a day he works now. Mr. Sawyer has completely turned the whole town around in the four years he has been here as far as knowing what is going on and when it is going on. Councilperson Runyan stated he has been through several budgets but has never seen a manager put a budget together like Mr. Sawyer has. He started something with the 2004-2005 budget that had the council go through it and to pick the top 10 priorities that the council thought would be good for the city. He further stated there is always a budget update at each budget workshop and keeps the council updated on everything. He also stated when the council has to make some hard decisions at a council meeting, Mr. Sawyer gives the council the pros and cons for that decision. Councilperson Wagner agreed with what had been stated. When someone comes into a new situation, it is scary at first because the person does not know what he has gotten into. He stated there are a lot of very difficult decisions that have to be made but the information Mr. Sawyer puts in front of the council makes the difficult decisions a lot easier to make. Councilperson Runyan stated the manager has a great career in front of him, he learns from past experiences, is a man that will achieve his goals and will leave memories of what he has achieved wherever he goes. Councilperson Sanderson asked the people in the audience to stop and think about how many other city managers they have seen out in a thunderstorm checking out the sewers and the pump stations. Mr. Sawyer does not have to do that because he has people to do that for him but he has taken that much interest in the city to protect the people. Councilperson Sanderson stated he knew a lot of the people in the audience were thinking that the council are buddies with Mr.

Sawyer but that is not the point because the council understands what the man is doing and what he has done. The council appreciates the help he has given them and the people in the city should appreciate it too because they do not realize how better off the city is. Councilperson Sanderson asked the people in the audience to stop and think about what he said a little bit then maybe the people will know what the council is talking about. Councilperson Johnson advised there are a lot of decisions the council makes that the council makes on its own. Mr. Sawyer does not tell the council what to do or how to do it and he is surprised on some of the decisions. She further advised there are times when a decision is changed after talking with each other. She wants the people to know that Mr. Sawyer does not talk the council into the way it votes. Mayor Corey asked Mr. Sawyer if he had any comments for the council. Mr. Sawyer stated he would like to say that nobody is perfect and if anyone aspires to be they are doomed to failure. He could be here 50 years from now and would not expect to receive a perfect evaluation because that is an unachievable goal. He further stated those areas that have been identified by council as areas he needs to work on will be worked on. He apologized for not completing his self-evaluation survey that was part of the evaluation process but advised he would not have rated himself as favorably as council has and appreciated the council's evaluation and support. Mayor Corey stated the manager prepares the council well and he does an exceptional job. He further stated he did not think there is a council that understands the budget process or the whole budget as well as this council does.

#### DISCUSSION ON ALCOHOL CONSUMPTION IN MCCURDY PARK COMMUNITY

CENTER: Mayor Corey advised this item has been discussed for several years and there are two councilpersons that requested this item be put on the agenda and there is also a recommendation from the parks and recreation commission to allow alcohol in the community center. Councilperson Johnson advised Janet Washburn brought this item to the council's attention last Monday. At the March 23, 2005 parks and recreation commission's meeting, there was a motion asking the city council to allow alcohol in the community center. Ms. Washburn stated the community center is short about \$130 per month in paying for the utilities. She further stated she had four reservations for the community center in the fall and early spring but when they found someplace that served alcohol, they canceled. Allowing alcohol in the community center has been discussed for a number of years and alcohol will only be allowed for social use, weddings and receptions, anniversaries, etc. She also stated the city would not be held responsible if anything was to happen because the renters would be responsible for putting the City of Corunna on as a rider on their own insurance policy. Ms. Washburn advised the community center is currently being used three Saturday nights per month and she felt the other two Saturday nights could be filled easily. Councilperson Mehig stated he spoke to a couple of the commission members and it was his understanding the renters would have to furnish their own security, there would be no alcohol of any sort leaving the building and no minors would be served. Ms. Washburn advised the renters would have to have a licensed bartender in order to serve alcohol. Councilperson Mehig stated he personally does not have a problem with allowing alcohol in the community center except the city needs to keep close tabs on it. Ms. Washburn advised there would be a separate agreement for the use of alcohol and all of the requirements would be listed on the agreement. Councilperson Sanderson stated he thought there was something about the McCurdy's having a say about alcohol. Ms. Washburn advised the McCurdy will state there will be no sale of alcohol in the park, but there is nothing that prohibits the drinking of alcohol in the community center. Councilperson Spring asked if the proposed language had been

done. Ms. Washburn advised she has something that can be sent to Mr. Burlingame if the council decides to move forward that she copied from a National Guard contract. Mr. Sawyer stated there is a current ordinance on the books that does not allow alcohol within McCurdy Park and the community center falls within the park. If this were something that council would like to pursue, he would recommend that the council instruct the staff to prepare an ordinance modification and then send the ordinance back to the parks and recreation commission to make sure they are comfortable with it. He further stated the proposed ordinance change would then be sent to Mr. Burlingame for review and would come back to the council for a public hearing to be set at a later date. It could take about six weeks to two months to follow this all the way through. Councilperson Runyan stated most places furnish a certified bartender when the hall is rented and asked how the city would go about getting a certified bartender. Ms. Washburn advised the responsibility belongs to the renter. Councilperson Runyan stated the city is going to have to be sure the person is certified. Ms. Washburn advised she is a certified bartender. Councilperson Runyan asked if the liability insurance would cover the city if someone leaves the building and has an accident on the road. Mayor Corey advised the renter would be responsible for those actions and the city would be held harmless. Mr. Sawyer advised there are two processes that could be used if alcohol is allowed in the community center for special events; one would be a simple ordinance modification excluding the community center and making it subject to the rules as established by the council and the other is to develop all of the rules and requirements into the ordinance. He further advised it would be his recommendation to place all of the rules and regulations into the ordinance because this is an issue that is very divisive within the Corunna community. Mayor Corey advised he had a copy of the will and it is clear the council has the right to do this. Councilperson Runyan asked if a motion could be made to refer this to the city manager and staff to prepare ordinance language for the parks and recreation commission and city attorney. Councilperson Sanderson stated he thinks everybody in central Michigan uses the park and the park costs the city money so the money the city will receive from renting the community center will keep the lawn mowed, the picnic tables up and the community center in working operation so the city does not have to start charging \$5.00 a day to get into the park. Mayor Corey asked Councilperson Sanderson if he was talking about charging people to get into the park. Councilperson Sanderson advised no. Johnson moved, Runyan seconded to instruct the city manager and the city attorney to prepare an ordinance modification along with rules and regulations to provide for alcohol in the community center.

Roll call vote:

Yes: Sanderson, Mehig, Johnson, Spring, Wagner, Runyan.

No: None.

Motion CARRIED

SET PUBLIC HEARING TO CONSIDER CHANGES TO SECTION 50-139 (DISCHARGE OF FIREWORKS OR EXPLOSIVES) AND SECTION 50-142 (MANUFACTURE, POSSESSION, AND SALE OF FIRECRACKERS, ROCKETS, SPARKLERS): Johnson moved, Runyan seconded to set a public hearing for May 16, 2005 at 7:15 p.m. to consider changes to Section 50-139 (Discharge of Fireworks or Explosives) and Section 50-142 (Manufacture, Possession, and Sale of Firecrackers, Rockets, Sparklers).

Roll call vote:

Yes: Mehig, Spring, Runyan, Johnson, Sanderson, Wagner.

No: None.

Motion CARRIED

SET PUBLIC HEARING FOR MAY 16, 2005 AT 7:30 P.M. TO ADOPT TRUTH IN

TAXATION 2005-2006 BUDGET AND 2005-2006 FEE SCHEDULE: Runyan moved, Sanderson seconded to set a public hearing for May 16, 2005 at 7:30 p.m. to adopt Truth in Taxation 2005-2006 Budget and 2005-2006 Fee Schedule.

Roll call vote:

Yes: Johnson, Sanderson, Wagner, Mehig, Runyan, Spring.

No: None.

Motion CARRIED

DISCUSSION ON PART-TIME CHIEF OF POLICE POSITION: Mr. Sawyer stated he asked council and received instruction to move forward with hiring a part-time position for the next budget year. Under the city charter, he has 30 days from a vacancy to recommend a replacement and the vacancy will not occur until May 13 so he has until June 13<sup>th</sup> to make a recommendation to council. He further stated after the formal announcement by Chief Hetfield, Officer Kim Williams approached him and stated he would be willing to submit his retirement and come back to work as the part-time police chief for a period of up to five years. Mr. Sawyer also stated this could be a great solution for the city plus this individual has 28 ½ years of experience, knows the code book as well as anybody if not better than anybody and understands the importance of seeing a more aggressive and active code enforcement program. Mr. Sawyer advised he could not think of a better candidate and would recommend hiring Officer Williams instead of going through a laborious advertising session, meeting with people and then having the people say that his mind was made up. Mr. Sawyer further advised his mind was made up and he was recommending that Officer Williams be appointed as the acting Chief of Police for Corunna effective May 13 and to assume the part-time position June 3 upon his retirement. Mayor Corey asked council if they wanted to discuss this prior to any motion being made and received no response. Mehig moved, Runyan seconded to instruct the city manager to enter into negotiations with Officer Williams for a contract for a part-time Chief of Police and report back to council with his recommendation at the next council meeting.

Roll call vote:

Yes: Wagner, Johnson, Sanderson, Runyan, Spring, Mehig.

No: None.

Motion CARRIED

CALL TO AUDIENCE: Mike Sarrazin congratulated Mr. Sawyer on his evaluation and stated it appears that he is somebody that is well qualified for the job and maybe over-qualified for a little city of 3,000 or less people. Mr. Sarrazin further stated he is the acting chairman of the budget review committee and advised his committee was a little confused. The committee was asked to review the city's budget and was given a year to make recommendations on what the city council and manager could do to make the city survive financially and yet, the council has kind of made those decisions already so his committee is wondering if it is still an acting committee or not. He also stated the police department is a huge department in the City of Corunna and it has very rapidly been eliminated. He does not know how much financial data the council has as far as what the savings will be by paying for retirement benefits for a full-time chief and immediately hiring a part-time chief who will also have the same benefits. Mr. Sarrazin advised he was not attacking Mr. Williams but he thought the council was a little hasty in picking the first application that

came in for a police chief. He does not know if Mark Hetfield had a chance to say he might be interested in the part-time position or if there was anybody else within the community that was interested. Mr. Sarrazin further advised he was not saying council made the wrong decision but it was a little hasty. He asked if the council was making the decisions now that they asked the budget review committee to do because if it is, he thought council should let the committee know because he has 13 people who have better things to do. Mayor Corey stated he did not think it was council's intent to get a citizens review committee together to take over the council's responsibility. It is not the committee's job to set the budget for next year. He further stated he thought the responsibility of the committee was to try to establish long-term revenues for the city and anybody who has looked at the city's budget can see that revenues are declining but the expenditures continue to grow because wages, health insurance costs, and retirement benefits continue to go up. He did not think it was the intent of the council to ask the advisory board to do their job. He also stated he felt the advisory group would come back to the council with some recommendations for future revenues and not just sit and do line items and budgets. This does not mean if the advisory group feels some department should be eliminated, increased or decreased that the council would not listen because it is the council's job to listen to whatever recommendations are brought to the council at that point. Mayor Corey asked if that made sense. Mr. Sarrazin advised it did but he was out of town last week and when he came back everyone he ran into jumped all over him because the city was dismantling the police department and will allow drinking in the park. He further advised the public opinion survey stated the people were upset with the manager and were happy with the police department. He is not saying the manager is bad because he knows the manager and what he has been doing for the city and how many hours he has been spending but he also knows that a lot of people who do their job properly do not make friends. He also advised the manager is probably doing an excellent job and is making the council's life real easy. Mayor Corey advised it is not always that easy. Mr. Sarrazin stated then the manager is making it more comfortable but he has to keep the committee he is working with interested for a year and moving in a direction that will help the city but the data that Mr. Sawyer is so great at shows the police department is costing the city within two percent of what it cost 15 years ago. The police department has not exploded and become something out of proportion yet for some reason the council has leaned towards reducing the police department but people live in this community because they are safe and feel safe, do not lock their doors and leave their keys in their cars and he and his committee does not want to see that go. He further stated the problem is not with the police department. If the chief is not doing his job, it is an administrative problem. He also stated the city needs revenue but not by eliminating the police department and the council needs to be cautious where its going because the people do not want to lose their police services. Mayor Corey advised it was not the intent of the council nor is the council moving to dismantle the police department. Councilperson Johnson stated the council is not done with the budget process and has just started with the department of public works. She is not saying the police department is the only department being looked at. She further stated the council's recommendation was to cut the part-time officers but they did not touch the full-time officers. The council also cut the laptop computers that were not needed right now. She also stated the police chief took it upon himself to eliminate the part-time officers and was not something the council or the city manager told him to do. Councilperson Johnson advised people have to understand where the council is coming from. The council only cut the part-time people because they did not want to touch any full-time officers. She further advised she is sorry the budget committee felt bad for what

has happened but she did not think the budget committee was supposed to do what they think they have to do or have more powers than the council does. Bill Runyan asked if this meant there would be a freeze on pay raises for the city employees and/or a cut back on the wages that were increased within the last couple of years. Mayor Corey advised all of the current positions are frozen except for the union contracts. Mr. Sarrazin advised he never stated that his committee has any powers. Councilperson Johnson advised that is what it sounded like to her. Mr. Sarrazin advised he knew their job is to make recommendations to the council. The committee feels the council has acted too swiftly in making some pretty substantial cuts in areas that are important to the city so if the council has decided they want to move this fast then his committee wants to know if they still have a job to do. He further advised the best thing to do would be to put him on the agenda as an agenda item at the next council meeting so this can be discussed further instead of trying to discuss it during the public forum section. Mayor Corey stated the committee's job is still the same as it was in the beginning and that is to look for long-term solutions. He further stated the city will have to tax its residents, set up a city income tax in some way or get some industrial growth to come into the city, but in the meantime the council has to deal with the budget it has and do what it has to do. He also stated he thought an agenda item would be appropriate. Councilperson Runyan stated the budget advisory committee is very important and every city that has adopted one has had recommendations given to them. He personally would like to see the budget advisory committee be an ongoing committee and not for just one year. Mr. Sarrazin advised so would he but you do not want to see it get stomped on the foot because that is what has happened. One member resigned before the committee started and he cannot keep the people coming if there is nothing to hang on to. He asked how much it would cost to reassemble a police force if it is dismantled prematurely. Mayor Corey advised the council is not dismantling the police force and rather than placing the budget advisory committee on the agenda it might be good to set up a workshop with the council and the budget advisory committee so the two groups are clear on what is going on. Mr. Sarrazin advised he would appreciate that. Mayor Corey read a document dated January 24, 2005, which listed the responsibilities of the citizen budget advisory committee. Mr. Sarrazin advised he did not believe he had that document. Mayor Corey advised it might be good to set up a joint workshop if that is agreeable to council and to the budget committee. Mr. Sawyer stated if someone was to ask him what the job of the budget advisory committee was at that point, he could not answer that question because phase one is complete. Mayor Corey stated maybe the council is at a point where it needs to meet with the budget committee. Mr. Sarrazin advised he would discuss this item at his next meeting. Councilperson Runyan stated the council has known for two or three years that the department of public works is short two or three people and the people in the community want services but these are some of the people that provide those services and the city has not hired anybody. The council has tried to keep things at a zero budget as much as it could but revenues are falling and cuts have to be made in certain places. Councilperson Mehig stated when the council began its budget workshop, the budget was short about \$150,000 of meeting the budget requirements. He believes the budget has to be in by May 16 so the council has a very short window to pull this together. He further stated there has to be some tough cuts and there are more cuts to come but the council does the best it can with what it has. Chief Hetfield stated he wanted to clarify the part-time issue. The city manager came to him on Friday afternoon and explained some of the budget issues that the city had and was advised the part-time line item would be short at the end of the year so he had to decide whether to take the part-time officers off the schedule or cut the administrative assistant and the

priority at this point was to keep the administrative assistant. He further stated he advised the city manager that he was taking the part-time officers off the schedule and left it at that. He also stated the issue was discussed further on Monday and the city manager informed him that a request could be made to the council to appropriate more money for that line item but he was not sure that would happen because the part-time officers would be eliminated as of July 1<sup>st</sup> anyway. Chief Hetfield advised if the council wants to appropriate more money, he would be more than happy to put them back on the schedule. Mayor Corey asked Mr. Sawyer if he had a response. Mr. Sawyer advised the only other thing prior to a request for additional appropriations was a request for the department heads to look at their budgets and estimates because for all he knew money existed in the department. He knew for example as of May 13 there would be some savings in the police chief's line item even with the replacement of a part-time police chief on that day. He further advised the city is not on a line item budget; it is on a departmental budget and when he has accurate estimates for the department then he would be able to make a determination on whether or not a line item can be exceeded to stay within the departmental totals or if he needs to come to council to ask for additional monies, but at this point, he does not know that. Mayor Corey asked Chief Hetfield if he had gone through his budget to see if he had other areas of savings within his budget that could be transferred. Chief Hetfield advised no. Mayor Corey advised that would be the first step before coming to council. Chief Hetfield advised it was two-thirty, his last day and he was not going to do a full budget amendment. Mayor Corey advised he is still the chief. Chief Hetfield advised correct. Kevin Clark advised he has worked for the city for almost 16 years and he wanted to respond to Councilperson Johnson's comment about the chief of police. Mr. Clark asked if any of the six councilpersons ever talked to the chief of police about his wants or his dreams for the city because he thought he would still be the chief of police today but he had to do what was best for his family. Mr. Clark also advised he thought the council could do a better job picking a part-time police chief. Kristin Howard stated she has lived in the city for five years and asked if Officer Williams' full-time position would be filled after he retires and becomes the part-time police chief. She further stated with the part-time officers gone there is a time span when there is no one on duty in the City of Corunna so there is no police officer and asked who would respond to accidents, ordinance violations or enforce ordinance violations if there is drinking in the park. Mayor Corey advised everybody in the City of Corunna pays the same amount of taxes as everyone else in the county so the city will still have 24/7 coverage and if she does not think the city has that coverage, then he did not think the sheriff or state police would be very happy about that. Ms. Howard advised she works with them. Mayor Corey stated so she knows as well as anyone sitting here that the sheriff and/or state police will be covering the City of Corunna like they would any other place in the county if there is no city officer on duty. Ms. Howard advised the state police leave at four o'clock in the morning and there are three county cars on duty in the entire county but if they are on emergency calls covering the county then who is going to cover the city. Mayor Corey advised the city is part of the county. Ms. Howard advised when there is no county or state car to send then what happens. Mayor Corey stated there is always a county or state car to send. Ms. Howard advised not if they are on emergency calls. Mayor Corey stated what happens if they get another emergency call. Ms. Howard advised the call would have to wait but she lives within a city that has its own police department. The county does not go into the City of Owosso to take calls for them. Mayor Corey advised if there is no one to cover a shift, the county will cover it. Ms. Howard advised there has not been full shift coverage until the last couple of days. Mayor Corey advised that was absolutely not true.

Ms. Howard advised every time she has worked there has been a Corunna city car off. Mayor Corey stated evidently there are shifts that she does not work because the city does not have uncovered shifts. Ms. Howard asked Chief Hetfield when the last time was since he has been gone that there has not been a Corunna car on. Chief Hetfield advised there has not been Sunday coverage for the last couple of months. Ms. Howard asked if that was because the city has not been using the part-time officers. Mayor Corey advised the police department has not been using the part-time officers for two months. Chief Hetfield advised not for the Sunday shift. Ms. Howard asked who has been enforcing the ordinances. Mayor Corey advised that has been an ongoing issue anyway.

ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSION: Councilperson Sanderson stated he wanted to congratulate the council on the fine evaluation they gave Mr. Sawyer tonight. He further stated he would like to say something to Mr. Sarrazin's committee. There is more to their job than just the police department and advised he would like to see some answers about the city sewers, water, and park. He also stated he would like some information on getting industry back in the city.

Councilperson Wagner advised he had nothing to discuss.

Councilperson Johnson thanked everyone for coming out tonight and advised she would like Mr. Clark to know that she and Chief Hetfield have talked so there you go.

Councilperson Runyan thanked the citizens for coming tonight and for their input. He wished there was a better way to communicate and maybe the city's web site will do it but a book has two covers and the people are only getting one cover. He advised there are a lot of things that the council make decisions on that the citizens do not know what is going on. He believes if the people could sit with the council every time there is a meeting or went through things, the people would understand more of where the council is at and what it is trying to do. He further advised maybe there is a need for more communication because the council knows stuff that the public does not know. They just read the paper and do not know both sides of the story.

Councilperson Spring stated since he has been here, there have been two people at the council meetings and not every decision the council makes is put in the newspaper. There are a few different things that go on other than what is read in the newspaper and it is amazing that everybody wants the council to be responsible but nobody shows up to a council meeting to go over any of this stuff. He further stated there are budget workshops and a citizens advisory committee, which he has had the opportunity to sit in with, and there are some very intelligent people on that committee that have made some pretty nice suggestions. He thought it would be great for that committee to make a suggestion to the council every once in a while and it has been eye opening because there are some pretty good ideas that have come out of the meeting. He also stated he wishes every council meeting has a turn out like the meeting tonight has.

Councilperson Mehig echoed Councilperson Spring's sentiment about the turnout tonight. If there is a controversial issue, a lot of people are here, but in the meantime, Judy Horton comes. He stated it would be nice to see more people attend. He further stated he thought it would be a positive step for the council to sit down with Mr. Sarrazin's group to make sure everyone's head is in the right direction.

Mayor Corey reminded everyone to vote tomorrow. He stated he wanted to make note of what was said earlier that when there is a controversy the council gets a lot of people here. What may not be as equally understood is that if the city is successful in the next go around the city in the last six months would have been approved for \$1.2 million dollars in grant money.

ADJOURN: Mehig moved, Wagner seconded to adjourn.

Roll call vote:

Yes: Spring, Runyan, Mehig, Wagner, Johnson, Sanderson.

No: None.

Motion CARRIED Time was 8:30 p.m.

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STEVE COREY, MAYOR

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YVONNE F. LONG, CITY CLERK